

SUMMER MUSTANG

1916

CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY

007



1408: A creative killer

IN SPOTLIGHT, 4

School's out, sports are done, but Poly's athletics director stays busy

IN SPORTS, 8



Volume LXXI, Number 1

Thursday, June 28, 2007

www.mustangdaily.net

Poly journalism student dies in car collision

Ryan Chartrand
MUSTANG DAILY

Cal Poly journalism junior Anna Rose Luskin died June 22 after suffering major injuries when her car collided with a tree in Paso Robles the night of June 20, the California Highway Patrol said.

Luskin, 20, was, like many Cal Poly students, driving to her home in Redwood City for the summer. While headed north on U.S. Highway 101 with her brother, Daniel, 15, her car drifted into the dirt center divider for unknown reasons around 8 p.m., police said.

Officials reported that Luskin

swerved back onto the road but then skidded off the right shoulder. Her car reportedly struck a large oak tree near Paso Robles Street with its left side, causing major injuries for her and minor injuries for her brother.

The Luskins were transported to Twin Cities Community Hospital. Anna Luskin died two days later at Sierra Vista Hospital, police said.

Luskin was one quarter away from taking the Mustang Daily class, where her byline would have been found in these pages.

"It's such a loss," said journalism department chair George Ramos who taught her in his public affairs

reporting class. "She was a bright student and I think she had unlimited potential."

She was on the staff of her high school's national award-winning online newspaper, the Paly Voice. She also held an internship at the Palo Alto Weekly where she wrote columns, one of which was about how she had been accepted to Cal Poly.

"It (Cal Poly) offers courses in news writing, magazine writing and editing — exactly what I want," she wrote. With her acceptance, she said, "I think I might finally be able to be at peace with myself, and with the world."

"Anna at 18 is more mature and emotionally stable than I was in my twenties," wrote her father, Stanford University professor Fred Luskin, in the same column. "She is both blessed and cursed with a strong desire to do well and a profound sense of responsibility."

Luskin had a 3.3 cumulative GPA at Cal Poly and was specializing in print journalism.

"She was very careful about how she did her work and she took pride in what she was doing," Ramos said. "She certainly was an asset to the department and to her interest in journalism."

see Luskin, page 2



Anna Luskin



GRAIG MANTLE MUSTANG DAILY

Cal Poly is the only CSU campus that doesn't fully accept credit cards, a distinction ASI President Todd Maki would like to do away with.

Credit cards may come to entire campus

Isaiah Narciso
MUSTANG DAILY

Cash, checks, Campus Express cards and even your student ID have been accepted as payment for most transactions on campus. Now a new option will emerge next fall if things go according to plan.

If outgoing ASI President and mechanical engineering senior Todd Maki gets his way, students would be able to use their credit cards next year.

"If the credit cards were to be implemented this summer, they will be available for students on campus when we return in fall quarter," Maki said.

Currently the only places where students

can use a credit card are at El Corral Bookstore and Vista Grande restaurant. The plastic cards, along with a small percentage fee, can also be used to pay academic tuition.

In the case of tuition fees, there is a 2.9 percent "convenience fee" if students pay with a credit card. Student Accounts, which is in charge of tuition payments, says on its Web site that they will not take Visa cards.

"For any credit card charge that you make, the way that credit cards make money off of those is that they take a percentage of the transaction," Maki explained.

Maki believes that the 2.9 percent fee will not extend to other parts of campus when students use their cards. He believes that opening up this new payment transaction

method will lead to increased business on campus.

"By opening up the credit cards, they will have greater uses of their resources," Maki said.

However, Maki admitted that he has not personally seen what the new credit/debit card system would look like next year. He claimed that the costs of implementing the new system would not be passed on to students.

"As of now, it's in the budget for the Cal Poly Corporation this year," he said. "That means the corporation will be able to implement it over the summer, assuming that we (ASI) can do so."

Cal Poly Corporation, a non-profit or-
see Cards, page 2

Water, sewage rates rise in SLO

Ryan Chartrand
MUSTANG DAILY

The cost to live in San Luis Obispo isn't only rising in the prices of homes, but the rates at which residents must pay to have the bare necessities.

With a City Council decision to increase both water rates by 13 percent in July, despite 1,869 written protests, and sewage rates by 11 percent, Mayor Dave Romero hopes to secure a strong future for San Luis Obispo.

"This is to assure a good quality of life for my grandchildren, great grandchildren and anyone else who may be here down the line," Romero said.

The future, however, sees no sign of slowing down these rising rates until 2012 to help fund an additional water supply for the city.

The city currently gets its water from Santa Margarita Lake and the Whale Rock reservoir in Cayucos.

"If either of those goes out of service for a long period of time, we would not be able to supply enough water to the city," Romero said. "We're looking for a third supply, which is the Nacimiento (Lake) water."

The increasing rates will mainly help to fund the Nacimiento Lake Water Project, an estimated \$185 million project that will create a 45-
see Rates, page 2

Roads to, through campus to close during summer

Megan Priley
MUSTANG DAILY

Students may find themselves looking for another way onto campus for the summer quarter as the Cal Poly sewer project gets underway.

Project manager Barbara Queen said the purpose of the sewer line replacement project is to upgrade the size of the existing sewer line and increase the capacity to the campus sewer system due to the new Poly Canyon Village.

The Poly Canyon Village Project is funding the replacement that involves removing the existing sewer line and replacing it with a new sewer pipe that is of a larger diameter.

"The contractor is staging the work starting from the lowest point

of the sewer line to the highest point," Queen said. "He is scheduled to perform the work in sections, completing one section before continuing to the next."

The impacted roads include California Boulevard, North Perimeter Road, University Drive, Highland Drive, and Feedmill Road. California Boulevard will continue to be closed until July 3 and access to the library loading dock on Dexter Road will be closed from July 6 through July 19.

For some students, this may mean having to take an inconvenient detour around campus in order to get to class on time.

"I use California every day to get to school. I was surprised when I had to redirect my route from my house the first day of summer quar-

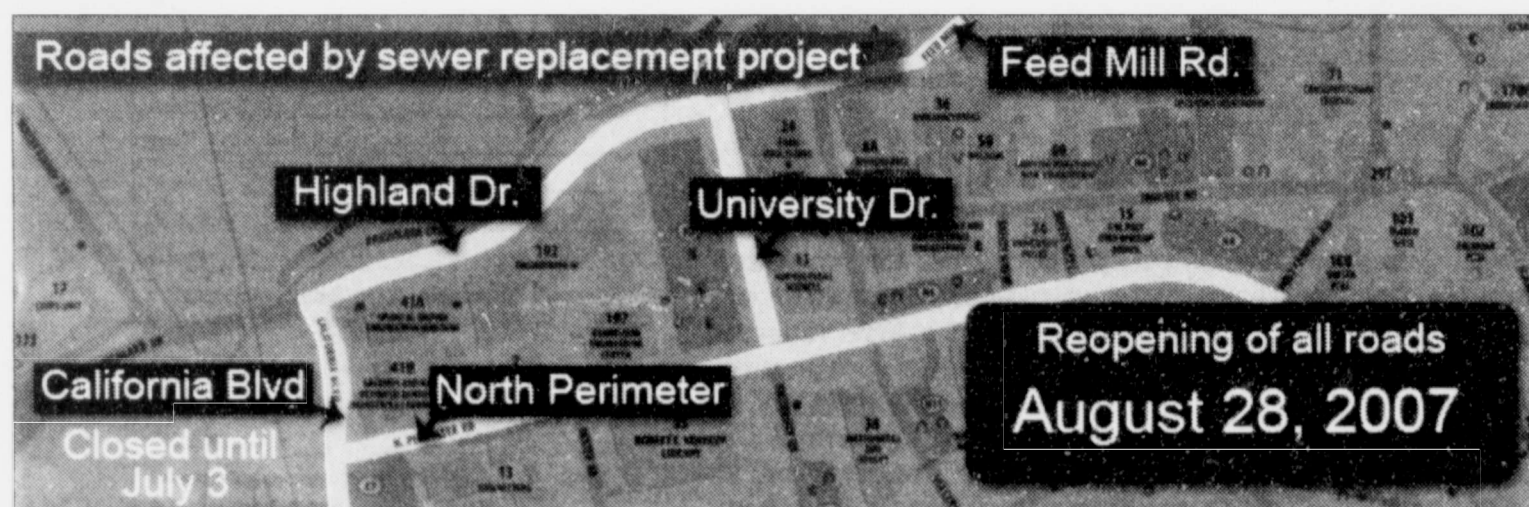
ter," theater senior Ashley Beach said.

However, the right steps are being taken to help reduce any complications.

"Facilities Planning and Capital Projects is working directly with staff, faculty, and students who may be affected by this work," Queen said.

The reopening of all roads and the expected completion date for the project is Aug. 28. Until then the C7 Parking Lot will be open with access from Highland. Access through the driveway over the railroad crossing to the LDS Church and private housing will remain open from the south side of California as well.

Additional updates for closures related to the road work as they move from one section to another will be available as needed.



Rates

continued from page 1

mile pipeline to provide water for five communities, including San Luis Obispo.

The project will require yearly increased rates, so the council also approved an additional 13 percent water rate increase and 10 percent sewage rate increase effective July 2008. The city increased water rates 12 percent last year.

By July 2009, the average water and sewage payer will see an extra \$19.06 added to each monthly bill. For those who conserve water more, however, it could mean smaller bills as the sewage rates will now be volume-based as opposed to a fixed rate.

Using ratepayers' money to fund the Nacimiento Lake Water Project has turned the city council's decision into a debatable topic.

Councilwoman Christine Mulholland cast the one dissenting vote in the 4-1 vote that approved the new water rate.

"I do not believe that current residents who already have enough water should have to pay for the project," Mulholland said. "New development will be paying surcharges and increased costs to hook up to our water system, but those of us who are fronting the money aren't going to get our money back."

"It's all about reliability," Romero said. "Nacimiento might be our last best supply...this is our chance, and if we miss it we might not get another."

A creek flows mercury into Nacimiento Lake, which could cause vision, hearing and speech impairment to those who drink the lake's water. The mercury, however, settles at the bottom of the lake, Mulholland said.

Prior to the council's decision, San Luis Obispo resident Terry Mohan sent postcards to 10,000 residents asking them to send writ-

ten protests against the water rate increase to the city council.

"I think when the public does not have enough information or is not well-informed, the city should do something as simple and easy as what Mohan did," Mulholland said.

Although residents sent 1,869 protests, state law requires 50 percent plus 1 of the city's more than 14,000 water ratepayers to protest. Only 11 percent raised their voice.

Mohan hasn't given up yet, however. He recently started an initiative that will give all registered voters the chance to vote on the water rate increase by sometime around August.

"They put this to the public in a dishonest way," Mohan said, referring to the fact that the rate increase was put to a council vote. "I think they manipulated the rules to circumvent the voters' wishes."

"The most important action that any council has taken in the 13 years I've been on the council is this assurance for a water supply," Romero said.

Water conservation

The increasing rates mean that residents need to conserve water more than ever, said Bob Nicholson, a San Luis Obispo utilities conservation technician.

"Residents need to be aware if they have a toilet leak as I've seen water bills of over \$100 because of a leaky toilet," Nicholson said. "If it runs overnight or if there's a little disturbance in the toilet when no one has flushed it recently, you need to have someone take a look at it."

He also noted that a faucet or a hose leaking can add up over a 30-day period and should be fixed as soon as possible.

"You can see if you have an active leak by checking the water meter outside the house," Nicholson said. If the black arrow on the dial face is moving, something is leaking."

Residents should also be aware of their irrigation, Nicholson said.

"If it looks like your lawn is soaked or your heels sink into the grass when walking on it, it should be checked out," he said.

During the winter month, Nicholson said it's important that residents turn off their irrigation systems, because the sewer bill for the following year will be determined by how much water is used during the winter.

The SLO life isn't cheap

With the growing cost of both home prices and even the bare necessities like water and sewage in San Luis Obispo, residents like Mohan are pointing to the rise in growth as the root cause.

"I moved here because it's a nice, small town," Mohan said. "I'm from back east and I know what overdevelopment and irresponsible development can do."

"I've heard there's been too much growth, that it's getting too expensive and that people are looking elsewhere now," Mulholland said. "I know people are still moving in, but I know some long-term residents feel that it's not the same San Luis Obispo that they've come to know and love and are now living elsewhere."

What about for Cal Poly? Are potential students looking away once they see the rising costs to live in San Luis Obispo?

"Absolutely not," said James Maraviglia, assistant vice president for admissions, recruitment and financial aid. "We have a record prospect pool of over 300,000 prospects banging on our door right now."

Many potential students know that there aren't many cheap places to live in California and have become used to it, Maraviglia said.

"We've seen an increase in applicants of over 150 percent in the past 13 years," he said. "Cal Poly must be doing something right to remain attractive."

Cards

continued from page 1

ganization directly connected to the campus, is also responsible for providing services like Campus Dining and El Corral Bookstore. However, they are a separate organization from the university.

"It's similar to how ASI operates with the Rec Center and the union," Maki explained. "Cal Poly itself doesn't run dining, but the corporation does."

Maki stated that Cal Poly is the only college in the California State University system that doesn't allow credit cards across campus. However, students like aerospace engineering junior Jonathan Hernandez expressed second thoughts in regards to the new system.

He claimed that the current system has worked for him and many other students and thought it would be a waste of resources to put in a costly credit card system.

"I don't think we should have credit cards in place," Hernandez said. "I put money in my ID card or simply use cash. There are also concerns brought up as a result of

the new credit card system. Depending on what system Cal Poly Corporation chooses, no signature would be necessary for purchases under \$25.

Maki thought it would result in fewer lines all around campus.

"Credit and debit cards take a while because they're a lot slower than cash or campus express cards," he said. "So if we can speed that up by sliding your card, getting your receipt and not having to sign, it would take out about 20 seconds per customer."

The plan to implement credit cards as part of Cal Poly's payment system several years ago hit a roadblock due to the high costs associated with a renovation project.

"The plan was to renovate building 19, which is the building that houses the Avenue, Light-house, Sandwich Factory and Veranda Café," Maki said. "Within that renovation they were going to implement the credit and debit cards system."

Maki explained that the credit cards would have been in place there after the renovation. However, there are currently no dates set for the renovation of building 19.

The Wall

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only at

mustangdaily.net

Luskin

continued from page 1

Journalism senior and friend Jennifer Ingan conveyed a similar sense of loss.

"She was really friendly and always helpful with assignments we had," Ingan said. "She really seemed advanced for her age. She'd get As on her stories and she was a great writer."

Luskin's death marks the sixth Cal Poly student death in the past year.

"They're all unanticipated accidents that are tragic and remind us all

the time about how fragile life can be and how quickly life can be taken," vice president for student affairs Cornel Morton said.

Luskin's family and her friends on campus have not contacted Morton to set up a memorial, endowment or scholarship.

"Most of those are accidents and avoidable, but basically we just have to take better care to be vigilant about safety."

Morton advises students visiting home to drive carefully and to wait until morning if they are tired.

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EASY

1

Solution, tips, and computer program at www.sudoku.com

Wrestler Benoit strangled wife, smothered son, hanged himself in weight room

ATLANTA (AP) — Pro wrestler Chris Benoit strangled his wife and smothered his son before hanging himself in his weight room, a law enforcement official close to the investigation told The Associated Press on Tuesday.

Authorities also said they are investigating whether steroids may have been a factor in the deaths of Benoit, his wife and their 7-year-old son. Steroid abuse has been linked to depression, paranoia, and aggressive behavior or angry outbursts known as "roid rage."

"We don't know yet. That's one of the things we'll be looking at," said Fayette County District Attorney Scott Ballard. He said test results may not be back for weeks.

Autopsies were scheduled Tuesday by the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

Authorities were investigating the deaths at a secluded Fayette County home as a murder-suicide and were not seeking any suspects. The official who described the manner of death spoke on the condition of anonymity because the information was to be released at a news conference later Tuesday.

Investigators believe Benoit (pronounced ben-WAH) killed his wife, 43-year-old Nancy, and son Daniel during the weekend and then himself Monday. The bodies were found Monday afternoon in three separate rooms of the house, off a gravel road about two miles from the Whitewater Country Club.

Nancy Benoit filed for a divorce in May 2003, saying their three-year union was irrevocably broken and alleging "cruel treatment." But she later dropped the complaint, as well as a request for a restraining order in which she charged that Benoit had threatened her and had broken furniture in their home.

In the divorce filing, she said Benoit made more than \$500,000 a year as a professional wrestler and asked for permanent custody of Daniel and child support. In his response, Benoit sought joint custody.

Fayette County Coroner C.J. Mowell did not return calls seeking comment. The answering service for his funeral home said he was out of town.

Asked about the condition of the interior of the house, sheriff's Sgt. Keith Whiteside said investigators found "nothing really out of the ordinary." He said Benoit was found in the home's weight room,

his wife in an office and the son in an upstairs bedroom.

Neighbors said the Benois led a low-key lifestyle.

"We would see Chris walking in his yard from time to time. He wasn't rude, but he wasn't really outwardly warm," said Alaina Jones, who lives across the street.

Jimmy Baswell, who was Benoit's driver for more than five years, placed a white wreath at the Benois' gate. "They always seemed like they were the happiest people," he said.

World Wrestling Entertainment said on its Web site that it asked authorities to check on Benoit and his family after being alerted by friends who received "several curious text messages sent by Benoit early Sunday morning."

The WWE, based in Stamford, Conn., said authorities asked that it not release further information on the deaths.

Benoit, born in Montreal, was a former world heavyweight champion, Intercontinental champion and held several tag-team titles. His names in the ring included "The Canadian Crippler."

"WWE extends its sincerest thoughts and prayers to the Benoit family's relatives and loved ones in this time of tragedy," the company said in a statement on its Web site.

"He was like a family member to me, and everyone in my family is taking it real hard," said fellow Canadian Bret Hart, a five-time champion with the World Wrestling Federation. The federation has since changed its name to World Wrestling Entertainment.

Benoit had maintained a home in metro Atlanta from the time he wrestled for the defunct World Championship Wrestling. The Fayette County Tax Assessors Office lists the value of the house, situated on more than 8.5 acres, at nearly \$900,000.

The WWE canceled its live "Monday Night RAW" card in Corpus Christi, Texas, and USA Network aired a three-hour tribute to Benoit in place of the scheduled wrestling telecast.

Benoit's wife managed several wrestlers and went by the stage name "Woman." They met when her then-husband drew up a script that had them involved in a relationship as part of a story line on World Championship Wrestling. The Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported.

Benoit has two other children from a prior relationship.

State

LOS ANGELES (AP)

— Two months after opening statements in producer Phil Spector's murder trial, the defense on Tuesday began its effort to show that actress Lana Clarkson killed herself without the prosecution having to rest its case.

The prosecution wants to call a former member of Spector's defense team who has been found in contempt and is facing jail for refusing to testify about a piece of possible evidence that has never been turned over to the prosecution.

...

LOS ANGELES (AP)

— Hugh Hefner's "Playboy" lifestyle is set to hit the big screen.

The film, to carry the title of his magazine, will be directed by Brett Ratner, whose credits include the "Rush Hour" movies and "X-Men: The Last Stand," and produced for Universal Pictures by Brian Grazer, who won the best picture Oscar in 2002 for "A Beautiful Mind."

Hefner, 81, sold the rights to his story to Grazer several years ago. He approved the project last week.

"Hef came from a puritanical upbringing and reinvented himself to be the godfather of the sexual revolution," Ratner told Daily Variety, which reported the deal Monday.

National

CANTON, Ohio (AP) — A police officer killed his pregnant girlfriend in her home the day after her mother last heard from her, according to a sheriff's complaint released Monday.

Concluding a search by thousands of volunteers, Jessie Davis' body was found Saturday in Cuyahoga Valley National Park, still carrying her dead, nearly full-term fetus, a girl she planned to name Chloe.

Davis' boyfriend, Canton Police Officer Bobby Cutts Jr., the father of her 2-year-old son, was charged with two counts of murder and due in court Monday. One of Cutts' former high school classmates, Myisha Ferrell, was jailed for allegedly hindering the investigation. She also was due in court Monday.

...

WASHINGTON (AP) — A judge ruled Monday that no pair of pants is worth \$54 million, rejecting a lawsuit that took a dry cleaner's promise of "Satisfaction Guaranteed" to its most litigious extreme.

Roy L. Pearson became a worldwide symbol of legal abuse by seeking jackpot justice from a simple complaint — that a neighborhood dry cleaners lost the pants from a new suit and tried to give him a pair that were not his.

International

FORWARD OPERATING

BASE THUNDER, Afghanistan (AP) — The story of a 6-year-old Afghan boy who says he thwarted an effort by Taliban militants to trick him into being a suicide bomber provoked tears and anger at a meeting of tribal leaders.

The account from Juma Gul, a dirt-caked child who collects scrap metal for money, left American soldiers dumbfounded that a youngster could be sent on such a mission. Afghan troops crowded around the boy to call him a hero.

Juma said that sometime last month Taliban fighters forced him to wear a vest they said would spray out flowers when he touched a button. He said they told him that when he saw American soldiers, "throw your body at them."

...

BEIJING (AP) — Beijing's airport is declaring war on pigeons.

Flocks of pigeons are thronging the airport, crashing into planes and threatening public safety, the state-run China Daily newspaper said Saturday. Some are carrier pigeons raised as pets, a centuries-old Beijing tradition.

On Monday, an aircraft collided with a flock of nine pigeons but managed to land safely, the newspaper said. It said the birds were carrier pigeons raised by a farmer living nearby.

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SICK?

As a last resort, use the Mustang Daily as a tissue.

'1408': an original thrill ride

Ryan Chartrand

MUSTANG DAILY

What better way to start off this year's summer films than with John Cusack battling against a creepy, unforgiving hotel room? Oddly enough, it's a good start indeed.

But it's not just any hotel room. As Samuel L. Jackson, who plays the hotel's manager, says, "It's one fucking evil room."

From the director of "Derailed" comes "1408," or what started as a Stephen King short story about a room, a guy and a party full of tension.

Horror novelist Mike Enslin, played by Cusack, is afraid of nothing. He doesn't believe in ghosts, yet visits haunted locations and writes books about his experiences to give his readers cheap thrills.

Then he visits room 1408, or what appears to be a normal hotel room in an upscale New York hotel. No one has ever lasted more than an hour inside of it, yet Enslin insists on staying the night. And so the ride begins.

Like any ghost or evil supernatural entity, the room forces Enslin to face his past and work his problems out in order to survive. I'm not quite sure who came up with this idea originally, but



COURTESY PHOTOS

Horror novelist Mike Enslin (played by John Cusack) battles an evil, supernatural hotel room in the film "1408," based on a short story by Stephen King.

ghosts in horror films tend to act like hardcore psychiatrists that literally try to beat your problems out of you.

The room itself is ever-changing in size, temperature, structure and who is inside of it. As Enslin is forced to remember life before his daughter died at a young age, everything around him begins to fall apart and the acid trip really starts to amplify.

"1408" has its strongest moments in the first 15 minutes of being in the room. As it turns out, the more subtle thrills created by slight changes in the room, such as a radio spontaneously blasting "It's Only Just Begun" by The Carpenters or a painting suddenly turning slightly, are far more frightening than when the CGI kicks in and makes it into a dramatic Hollywood thriller.

"1408" shines when it focuses on creating a painfully uncomfortable mood rather than trying to make you jump (which it never really does). Keeping it quiet, dark and as realistic as possible made the imagery have a far more lasting impression on the mind. It's a lesson that all filmmakers should learn: less is more in the world of thriller films, as it doesn't take a flood of effects (literally or figuratively) to scare the hell out of someone. But there are a few creative scenes that the special effects do enhance in "1408."

If I had to choose between Cusack and the room itself as to who put on the better performance, Cusack would win (barely). It is literally a one-man show as anyone else involved is either not really there or jumping out of windows. Cusack does an excellent job going through an

exhausting series of changing emotions that all come together to tell a heartfelt back story that you wouldn't expect from such a film.

While the film's plot is hard to wrap up, it feels a bit rushed when everything finally comes to an end. It leaves no explanation as to why some evil being loves torturing people in the room, but it's definitely arguable whether it needs explaining.

"1408" is a different kind of summer thriller in that it not only has a story (i.e. characters that are actually developed), but it has originality and a surprisingly large amount of creativity packed into a mere 90 minutes.

If when you get home you begin questioning whether something in your house moved while you were gone, then "1408" has done its job.

'Man Show' defines masculinity

Janelle Eastridge

MUSTANG DAILY

Since "most men remain a mystery to themselves and a confusion to others throughout their lives," as Heidi Harmon's friend once warned her, this local artist and Cal Poly graduate has been using art to make sense of what she deems the "opposite and enigmatic sex."

Harmon has created a collection of sculpture and collage pieces that focus on a single topic (men) from the feminine perspective. "The Man Show," appearing at the Monterey Street Wine Company in San Luis Obispo, will run through the end of July.

The artists began creating the 21 pieces for the show several months ago, she said.

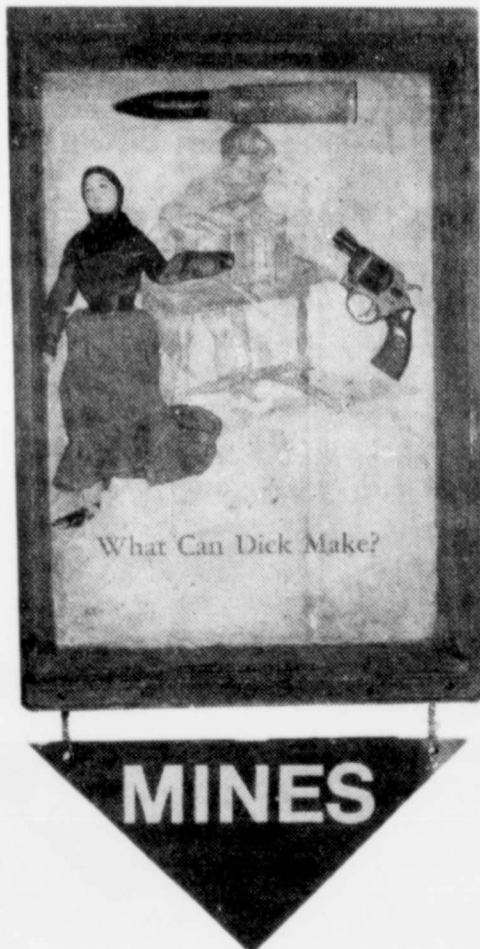
After seeing her work shown at Per Bacco Cellars in February, John Stipicevich — owner of Monterey St. Wine Company — was "very impressed with this talented artist." So when Harmon approached him about showing her latest collection of works, Stipicevich was more than willing to agree.

"It's very important to expose our customers to local artists. And changing the art gives regular customers something new to look at and something new to think about," he said. "I think Heidi's art will give customers a different perspective on looking at men in general."

Inspiration for this show came from two things in particular: Father's Day and cigars.

The desire to have an art show that premiered in June got her thinking about Father's Day and the subject matter this presented. Then, through her friendship with Stipicevich's partner, Doug Shaw, who also owns Sanctuary Tobacco Shop in downtown San Luis Obispo, she began to experiment with the concept of cigars as being part of the "masculine world."

"Because of those two subjects, I



In an exhibit at Monterey Street Wine Company, Cal Poly graduate Heidi Harmon explores men, the "opposite and enigmatic sex," through art. Her piece "What Can Dick Make?" overlaps an old "Dick and Jane" drawing with images of missiles and guns from the Vietnam War.

COURTESY PHOTO

decided to delve into it. ... Those were the seeds that started the whole process," Harmon said.

Plus, it's good to have thematic consistency at art shows, Harmon said. And this theme presented her with an interesting — and seemingly simple (or so she thought) — subject matter.

"I came into this show thinking that men were fairly simple, and that art about men would be fairly simple, too. But the more I got into the material, the more complex and interesting the material and subjects became to me," Harmon said. "I guess I just realized how complex men really are."

With that in mind, Harmon said that she hopes others leave with a greater depth of understanding and appreciation of men, too. Before the show opened, reactions to her ideas were fairly negative, Harmon said.

Unfortunately, society has the idea that men are destructive, violent and unable to

be physically close without being gay, she said. Harmon hopes to break these stereotypes and, at the same time, hold men accountable for not repeating violent actions.

"There is an assumption that men are essentially bad. They get fairly bad press," she said. "When you say you are going to explore what it means to be a man, rightly or wrongly, people assume that it is going to be negative."

Since the show's opening, people have responded well to its themes.

"I think it's a subject that doesn't get a lot of attention, or so it seems. ... All the pieces are thought provoking in their own way. And some are just fun," she said.

One piece in particular — "He Who Dies with the Most Toys Wins" — has

been particularly well praised. The collage features seven cigar boxes (smoking is one of the main themes of the show), each with a toy nestled inside.

"I think it says a lot about our culture and men in general," she explained. "I think men seem obsessed — well, in some cases — with winning toys of some kind or another."

Harmon graduated from Cal Poly in 1997 with a degree in liberal studies. Though she has dabbled in art her whole life, Harmon has been serious about this hobby for the past five or six years. In October, her work will be showcased in a Cal Poly alumni art show at the Robert E. Kennedy Library.

For more information on "The Man Show," contact Monterey St. Wine Company at 541-1255 or e-mail john@montereystreetwines.com.

4th of July FUN

Annual 4th of July Celebration, Arroyo Grande:

Enjoy the Village Band, barbecue, and period costumes by the South County Historical Society.
Time: Band starts at noon
Place: Rotary Bandstand on the Village Green
Cost: Free

Sand sculpture contest & fireworks, Cayucos:

Sand sculpture contest and parade through downtown; fireworks at dusk.
Time: 5:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Place: Downtown Cayucos, near the pier
Cost: Free

Winery 4th of July Celebration, Paso Robles:

Live music, a fireworks show, and desserts. For tickets, contact the Meridian Vineyards tasting room, and the Paso Robles or San Luis Obispo chambers of commerce.
Time: 6 to 9:30 p.m.
Place: Meridian Vineyards, 7000 Highway 46 East
Cost: approximately \$16

Fireworks on the Water, Morro Bay:

Cruise the bay until fireworks begin; great food and beverages from bar.
Time: 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.
Place: 1215 Embarcadero
Cost: \$65

Independence Day Celebration, Cambria:

Prizes, food, smoothies, waiter/waitress races, moonbounce and fireworks display over ocean at dusk.
Time: 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Place: Shamel Park
Cost: Free

Fireworks, Pismo Beach:

Live band entertainment downtown before fireworks show.
Time: 2 to 9:30 p.m.
Place: Pismo Pier
Cost: Free or \$25 for V.I.P. seating

— Compiled by Jesse Over, a Mustang Daily staff writer

SLOfolks takes music 'Over the Edge'

Brooke Robertson
MUSTANG DAILY

Bringing an array of culturally diverse, live music to the Central Coast for the past 30 years, the San Luis Obispo Folk Music Society, commonly known as SLOfolks, doesn't plan to slow down any time soon.

Elisabeth Demongeot and her husband Ted Shearer act as joint leaders of the nonprofit organization, booking bands and producing concerts. The job is completely volunteer, and there is a lot of work, but Demongeot loves it.

"I'm very serious about it because I feel it's very important," she said.

Having an organization like SLOfolks in the area is an opportunity for students and residents to hear artists from the United States and from other parts of the world that are not commonly heard, Demongeot said.

Demongeot wants people to open their ears to new and different styles of music, and she chooses which bands to bring to the area with that goal in mind.

"It's sad if people think there's only one type of music they like," she said. When people have that attitude, she described, they close themselves off to a whole world of music.

Demongeot enjoys every type of music, including a lot of rock. She especially loves West African.

She tries to book artists that are not well-known in the San Luis Obispo area, so as to give new artists a chance to spread their fan base and also to provide new music

for the local folk society.

Demongeot was born in Nice, and brought up in Paris. Her passion for music stems from both her Parisian roots and her parents.

Demongeot's father, a "frustrated conductor," conducted concerts in the family living room every Sunday. Her mother was a "frustrated jazz dancer" who danced the Charleston until the day she died.

"The strongest memories of my parents (involve) music," Demongeot said.

Music has stayed with Demongeot all of her life.

While living in Seattle, music kept Demongeot from letting the rain make her depressed. Instead, she and Shearer became involved in producing concerts for the Seattle Folklore Society. Demongeot also spent years as a disc jockey for Washington public radio.

For Demongeot, music is "a connection to the soul." She described listening to music as "like having a person speak the feelings you have."

She hopes to stir that same sentiment into the hearts of San Luis Obispo-area residents with six summer concerts and other shows scheduled to take place throughout the year at venues Demongeot said she "couldn't do it without."

SLOfolks recently brought Over the Edge, a band that described its sound as a combination of The Marshall Tucker Band and Santana, to the San Luis Obispo area.

Dave Holob and Adam Gottstein make up Over the Edge, a name Gottstein attributed to one of Holob's electric violin solos during their



COURTESY PHOTO

SLOfolks, a nonprofit organization bringing lesser-known artists to the Central Coast, recently hosted Over the Edge, a band whose musical styles incorporate elements of blues, folk, jazz, salsa and samba.

June 1 concert at Coalesce Bookstore's Garden Chapel in Morro Bay.

Holob described the feeling he experiences while performing onstage as "a nirvana you could plug into and be able to channel that energy from mind, body and soul."

Onstage and in the studio, Gottstein crafts melodies on an acoustic/electric ovation guitar that range in style from blues, folk, jazz, salsa, and samba. Holob accompanies him on an electric violin, handmade in Nova Scotia, which

he plays and plucks with a bow and his fingers to create original, audience-grabbing solos.

The pair brings an intense chemistry to the stage. Both Gottstein and Holob work off of each other's music and enthusiasm to produce a powerful onstage energy that transfers to the audience.

They serenaded audiences at both the Garden Chapel and at Green Acres Lavender Farm in Atascadero the following night, performing both original composi-

tions as well as toe-tapping cover songs, including "Hit the Road Jack" and "Summertime."

Over the Edge opened its Friday show with one of its signature originals, "Shenandoah Valley," an instrumental ballad Holob described as "dream-like." It was written to evoke the tranquil feeling of an early-morning drive down a country road, he said.

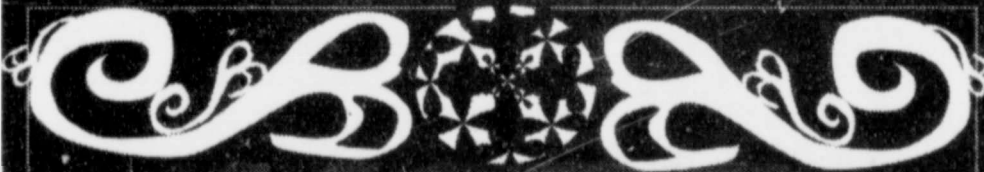
Holob is often inspired by nature. Many of his songs stem from beats discovered while hiking, from the pulse of a stream to the pattern of Holob's own breath. "The rhythms would just fall into place," he said.

But don't expect Over the Edge to be back in the San Luis Obispo area any time soon.

Demongeot rarely books artists that have already played in the Central Coast. Her goal is to maintain a flow of different and unique performers so that Central Coast audiences can always discover and experience something new.

"The hardest thing is not having (artists) back," she said. "They think that if they do well, they will get to come back." But that's not the case.

SLOfolks' next installment in its summer concert series will feature Sligo Rags, a versatile band which plays Irish and Celtic-inspired songs, while also dabbling in country, jazz and swing. The group was awarded the title of "Best Folk Band in Orange County" at both the 2004 and 2005 Orange County Music Awards. The ensemble will appear July 6 at the Coalesce Bookstore and July 7 at Green Acres Lavender Farm.



SOUND CHECK

Fridge - "The Sun"
Four Tet's Kieran Hebden returns to his original band for their first album in six years. While Fridge may lack the textural beauty of Four Tet, it makes up for it in tight rhythms and pop sensibility.


Port-Royal - "Afraid to Dance"
Foggy soundscapes hold themselves together with a vertebrae of mechanical rhythms constantly dipping above and below the surface.

Au - "Au"
Walls of delicately delayed guitars and percussion create a shimmering wall of sound.

Various Artists - "Healing the Divide"
Recorded at the 2003 benefit concert in New York, this compilation includes an introduction from the Dalai Lama, a song by Philip Glass and a handful of Tom Waits classics backed by the avant-classical Kronos Quartet ("Requiem for a Dream" soundtrack).

Epsilons - "Killed 'Em Deader 'N A Six Card Poker Hand"
The young Orange County punk band brings surf rock influences into a classic L.A. punk sound filled with unabashed guitar solos.

Paul Cambon and Brian Cassidy are Music Directors at KCPR, San Luis Obispo. 91.3 fm. These are their top new album picks for the week.



Funny or not is the question

Matt Manning

THE BG NEWS (BOWLING GREEN STATE U.)

Michael Richards found himself in the hot seat during a show, as the country watched Kramer yell the word that carries so much pain to so many people repeatedly.

Was it funny? Not in the least bit.

Other comedians, such as Carlos Mencia and Dave Chappelle, have also taken similar issues dealing with race, culture and gender to extremes, highlighting those well-exposed stereotypes to make audiences laugh in a way that only touchy issues can.

So where is the line drawn between what is offensive and what is acceptable in comedic acts? Is it color of skin that makes it acceptable, or is it the tone of how the jokes are said?

Well, according to Grant Pardee, director of the improvisation sketch comedy group Bad Genetics, there is no definite line.

"Comedy is only acceptable if it makes you laugh," he said. "I don't think the performer or the audience should worry about boundary lines ... it's just a matter of making it funny."

As director, Pardee pushes other members to take more risks in their comedy as they build their routine off of real life experiences.

"As long as you approach a topic with honesty, I feel like it's going to be funnier and more enjoyable for the audience anyways," he said.

However, fans may have a different opinion as to what can be addressed.

Scott Metzger, a fan of comedians such as Lewis Black, Dennis Leary and Mitch Hedberg, and also a member of a Facebook group devoted to comedy, feels that a line does exist, it's just hard to tell where it is.

"With every joke, there's always the possibility of it being offensive," he said. "There is a line there ... most comedians don't cross the line but there are a few that do."

The lone club devoted to comedy in the area, Connxtions, has supplied a variety of comedy for 15 years, with the biggest competitor being Comedy Central.

The club tends to make their entertainment more family oriented, but since there is a want for a race-centered comedian, they have one act a year for those fans.

Sheila Gomez, general manager of Connxtions, said that these types of comics are great if their topics are addressed in a tasteful way.

"If you're there to offend people, it's not comedy," Gomez said. "We don't have many that do [racy comedy]."

"We advertise it as a blue show, as a highly offensive show," she said. "Our biggest fear is when a comic does racial-type comedy [and fails]."

From Pardee's comedic perspective, what's offensive isn't necessarily something that's offensive to a particular group.

"I find it offensive when comics pander to the audience," Pardee said. "Or when they rely on joke-book-

type familiar jokes instead of approaching premises or set-ups with an honest perspective ... or when comics steal from other comics."

Comedian and owner of Inside Joke Productions, Steve Sabo, has been around the comedy circuit for 17 years. He has traveled around North America slinging sarcastic wit and what he calls "inappropriate" humor to a variety of audiences, and has opened up for comedic greats such as Chris Rock, Kevin James and Jim Breuer.

But despite his "inappropriate" humor, there are still certain issues he chooses not to address.

"I don't think I'm the person to make fun of certain things [like rape]," he said. Also, "As a white male, I have no right or reason to discuss the struggles of a black female."

Sabo said minority groups could be more successful in comedy if they focus less on being the minority and more on being a comic, adding those routines "have been done before."

"To be successful, you have to be fun. The more limited you are the less funny you'll be," he said.

Sabo will be performing at Connxtions June 27-30, and his agency Inside Joke Productions will continue to bring acts into Grumpy Dave's Pub every Tuesday night.

Despite the controversial line in comedy, one thing is for sure — no matter what topics are covered, the most important aspect is to make people laugh.

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Printed By
UNIVERSITY GRAPHIC SYSTEMS
ugs.calpoly.edu | ugs@calpoly.edu

June 28, 2007
Volume LXXI, No. 1 ©2007
Mustang Daily

"Mark it 120 baby!"

MUSTANG DAILY OPINION/EDITORIAL

Thursday, June 28, 2007

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6

The new generation of men and relationships

Cristina Albers
MUSTANG DAILY

The way men show women feelings has always changed. Different ages and different decades bring about different ways of dating and showing affection. But lately it seems as though my generation, especially that of guys, has lost the ability to commit to an actual relationship.

The opposite sex starts out having cooties, and if a girl ever played with a boy or vice versa, it was simply a friendship, or possibly a fight and they were trying to show each other up on the playground.

These cooties turned into hair-pulling and chasing girls around the asphalt in order for boys to show their feelings. They would tease us and make us feel horrible, but we would take it, because it made us want them. Classic bad-boy syndrome, I suppose.

As everyone started getting older, going through junior high and getting into high school, these immature forms of attention started to fade, being replaced by more subtle hints of affection.

But many couldn't bear to show their feelings, and it was incredibly common for two people to have crushes on one another and never find out until years down the line.

However, when two people did start dating there were rules. Not the same kind of strict rules that our parents had to endure, but guys were expected to treat us a certain way. Opening at least one door, paying, and at the end of the night it was a first kiss that was expected, if anything, but nothing more. Holding hands was still a gesture to first show you really like someone.

I graduated high school in 2003, and I'll be graduating from college at the end of 2007, and it's

this generation of dating, ranging about three years older as well, that seems to have lost something, or to have completely vanished.

It's almost as if guys don't even bother trying to court us anymore. They meet, pretend to want to get to know you and become great friends, and since this generation of girls is also more promiscuous, we give into to them before we should, and soon after they vanish.

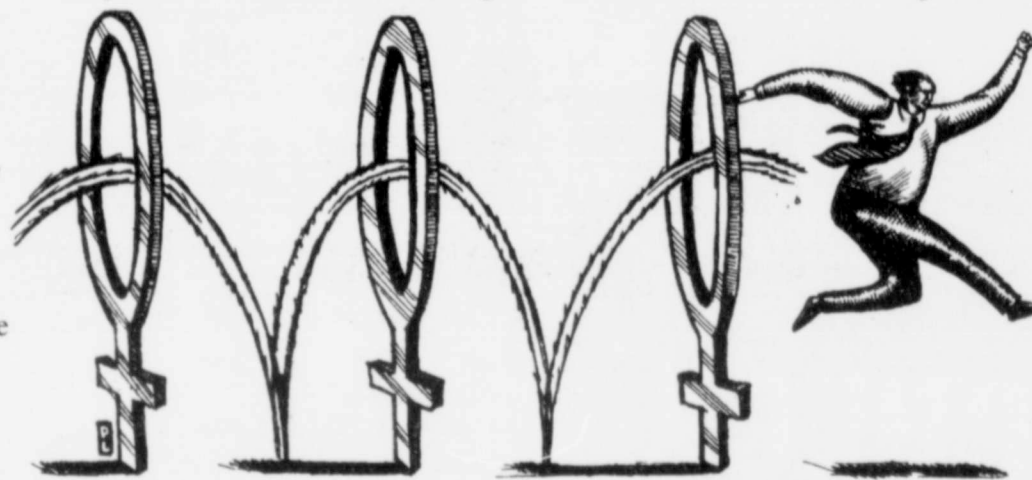
This doesn't apply to all guys, of course; I couldn't make a general statement like that. Who knows? Perhaps it's my bad judgment and luck that causes me to get into these situations and no one else experiences any of it.

I highly doubt that's true, though.

This does, however, apply to basically all the guys I've met since being away at college, and to all the guys out there I haven't met who know they're this way.

I've gone through my periods of not wanting a boyfriend, refusing to commit to someone because I was having way too much fun being free. I've probably ruined chances with a couple of different people because of this attitude, and so I understand when guys are completely against getting into a relationship.

But there's something the average man has to understand about girls: we take the sweet things you say and the little gestures and the promises to mean something.



PAUL LACHINE NEWSART

When you act like you like us, we're going to believe you and we're going to think that it may lead to something more.

The biggest problem with this generation is how loud it is without saying anything. People spend so much time coming up with lies to tell each other that there's no room for saying what someone actually feels. My two biggest crushes over the last two years have been told how I felt about them, and I'm still on good terms with both.

But hardly anyone can just say if they like someone or not. Those who don't actually like someone seem to show more feelings than those who do. Did that not make sense? Welcome to my point.

Here's a word of advice to guys out there: Don't act like you like someone, don't make false promises, and don't put ideas of romance in a girl's head. If you do, then they'll expect something. We don't need those false promises; all we need is a good time. If you don't want to be with us monogamously and forever, then don't, but don't pretend otherwise.

Where did all the sweet guys go? Those adorable male heroes in the movies that fall in love with the girl and will do anything to get her? Now every time a guy gets the girl he just screws it up because the quest was conquered. Who cares after that, right?

I'm not sure what's responsible

for this change. Maybe it's because girls have been changing too. Some girls have slacked on their standards of what they want out of their men, and maybe that's made guys think they can get away with more.

I think things like MySpace have something to do with this new change. When I first joined MySpace about a year-and-a-half ago, it was a place to party. You could go on there looking for old friends from high school, people from your current college classes, or new people in the area to have fun with.

The Web site was more of a social gathering and a place for friends, but now it seems like a place to simply find hook-ups. While the sweet male figure and the idea of relationships seem to be fading out, this new idea of "friends with benefits" and casual hook-ups has been booming.

This isn't even a horrible thing, the idea of casual sex, but when it destroys the idea of ever finding a decent guy to settle down with and commit to, it becomes a problem.

So is it true that the men of my generation won't commit? It's hard to tell without actually polling every guy my age, but those that I've run into just keep reminding me of how things have changed. I feel like I can never get that courtship back again.

Today's generation skips steps, the dates seem to come after the first night together, just to make the point of affection, and then soon it all stops. The guy you meet at first isn't actually the guy you think he is.

To quote "He Wasn't" by Avril Lavigne, "He wasn't what I wanted, what I thought, no. He wouldn't even open up the door. He never made me feel like I was special. He isn't really what I'm looking for."

Improve yourself during summer break

Michael Swiontek
NORTHERN STAR (NORTHERN ILLINOIS U.)

Summer offers students an opportunity to improve. This improvement typically comes in the form of an internship, a job or summer classes at college, but these don't need to be the only means.

Often, during the hustle of getting homework done and flitting about as a social butterfly, we lose sight of other paths to personal growth.

The mind needs to stay sharp. For those who have less-than-challenging summer jobs, a demanding book can make the reader rethink their ideas and learn new things.

Read a book that takes an opinion you can't stand (just not

Ann Coulter's). Learn about an emerging topic before the masses. Read a newspaper from a different city, state or country. Read a novel — even fiction (OK, Coulter counts).

If you're not enrolled in a college course, take a unique class through your local park district. Don't worry — people in your community don't bite.

Learning what tools help in stressful times is crucial.

Exercise is professed to be a great stress reliever — and it is. If you haven't worked out since high school gym class, you should start now (but start slow).

Along with exercise, a responsible diet gets chucked for pizza or fast food during the school year.

Well-being is sacrificed for convenience. It's only convenient

if we haven't developed the skills to be a quick and effective cook.

Most of us have our mom, grandmother, an aunt or a friend who would love to teach us how to eat better by cooking more.

There are many ways to improve your health, and it does not matter which approach is taken.

What's important is that summer is the best time to develop behavior patterns that will carry over when the rigors of a packed schedule tax our ability to make healthy choices.

It would be unfortunate to reflect on your summer and realize that all that you did was catch up on mind-rotting TV and movies.

If you are on the couch right now, quick — get up, get out and get a life!

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You thought 'The Matrix' was cool, just wait 'till you check out our virtual newsroom tour at mustangdaily.net

Cone

continued from page 8

with student-athletes—making sure that we have the right coaches in place, and the right staff to help them. And then, secondarily, that those right people have the resources necessary to do everything that they can to help student-athletes have a great experience both on and off the field. We have to make sure that coaches have the budgets they need to take their teams where they need to go, to do proper recruiting, to feed them right, and put them in the right uniforms.”

After many years in the field, Cone still enjoys her work, and

finds it rewarding.

“I think the most rewarding part is to see our student-athletes succeed both academically and athletically,” she said. “We’re in

I think the most rewarding part is to see our student-athletes succeed both academically and athletically.

—Alison Cone
Director of Athletics

a really unique position at Cal Poly to be able to have the kind of athletic program that everybody in the country really wants to have. So I think that the thing that is most satisfying to me is

watching the progress of our student-athletes in the classroom, and watching their success on the courts. Seeing all the student-athletes who get postseason experience, and knowing that those student-athletes are walking across the stage at graduation is really rewarding, too. It’s also very rewarding to see venues full of enthusiastic students.”

Now Cone finds herself at the beginning of another summer with much planning and preparation ahead of her.

“We’re just continuing to work hard,” she said. “One thing about athletics is, there’s always change, and something different. We’re just trying to put ourselves in a position to best take advantage of whatever those changes may be. Do I know what those changes are at this point? Absolutely not.”

Day

continued from page 8

“This has been a comeback year for Sharon,” Crawford said.

The national championship meet was the first of several meets Day will compete at throughout the summer. She will travel to San Salvador, El Salvador to compete in the North American, Central American and Caribbean (NA-CAC) Track and Field championships July 13-14. The following weekend Day will then travel to Rio de Janeiro to compete in the

Pan American Games.

Crawford said that Day will continue to train in San Luis Obispo with Hoyt until she leaves for El Salvador.

“I’ll be keeping my practice routine until the 12th (of July),” Day said.

If Day clears a height of 1.94 meters or about 6-04 ¾ by Aug. 1, she will automatically qualify for the U.S. national team that will travel to Osaka, Japan in late August for the World Championships. “Certainly anytime you make a U.S. team, that puts you in an elite category,” Crawford said.

Coaches

continued from page 8

athletic program.

Bromley, who had one year left on his contract before the extension, coached the Mustangs to a 19-10 record during the 2006-07 season. The team came within one game of the NCAA Tournament but lost to Long Beach State in the Big West Conference Championship.

Stevenson, on the other hand, coached the 2006 women’s volleyball team to its first Big West Conference Championship — the first conference championship for volleyball since 1984 when Cal Poly was a member of the Pacific Coast Athletic Association. In addition to the conference championships, the Mustangs reached the second round of the NCAA Tournament.

“I’m excited and pleased

about it,” Stevenson said. “It’s a nice show of support for the program.”

Stevenson’s two-year stint as head coach of the women’s volleyball program has resulted in a 42-12 record, which includes a 23-5 record against Big West opponents.

“My goal is to win a national championship,” Stevenson said.

Both Cone and Stevenson said that it is important for coaches to be on staff long-term for recruiting purposes.

“It helps with recruits because recruits are looking for a coach who is going to be there,” Cone said.

She also said that when a coach is on a short-term contract it limits the coaches as well as the program’s ability to recruit athletes.

“I think next year could be very exciting for Mustang athletics,” Cone said.



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The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0517

- Across**

1 "That ___ so bad"

6 Hummus holder

10 Relative of Finnish

14 Koran topic

15 ___ Ben Adhem

16 Giant slalom's first Olympic venue

17 Ones with a family connection?

19 Takes root

20 Straight

21 Thrown out

23 It's not forked out

25 Curtain call maker, maybe

26 Slowly or quickly: Abbr.

29 Bayonet, e.g.

31 Not just laugh

35 Clear, in a way
- 37 Await delivery anxiously

39 Nautical stabilizer

40 Hose hue

41 Former European money

42 It's softer than quartz

43 Rent-___

44 City on Utah Lake

45 Conflagrant

46 Much higher than normal

48 Studious sort, and proud of it

50 Single, for one: Abbr.

51 Belabor, with "on"

53 Soil type

55 Special CD release ... or a hint to this puzzle's theme
- Down**

1 No-loss, no-gain situation

2 Caught in ___

3 Crib component

4 Specifies

5 1980 Bette Midler hit

6 Manhandle

7 Footnote abbr.

8 In pretty good shape

9 Patronage

10 Fail to keep tabs on

11 Kind of prof.

12 Bend at the barre

13 Duck's home

18 Begin

22 Fertility clinic supply

24 Cover (over)

26 Turn ___ ear

27 Bing Crosby's label

28 Like rabies

30 Decimal

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69				70				71				

Puzzle by Alan Arbesfeld

- 32 French military hats

33 Big name in '60s counterculture

34 The first Mrs. Woodrow Wilson

36 Be very, very sorry

38 Desert mount
- 41 Hardly a marksman

45 Not taking no for an answer

47 Bit

49 It may come from a crowd

52 Hardy perennial

54 Press

55 Downfall
- 56 Golden Age poet

57 Deer ___

58 Send sprawling

60 Gym count

61 Bureau add-on?

62 Famed Ferrara family

65 Scrap

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Draft will end the Oden-Durant debate

Brian Mahoney
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

NEW YORK (AP) - With a basketball in his hands and a baby blue suit covering his 7-foot frame, Greg Oden exited a midtown hotel ballroom Wednesday just before Kevin Durant arrived.

The freshmen superstars are considered the can't-miss kids today in a deep draft that includes the next potential Chinese All-Star, the core of Florida's back-to-back national championship teams, and other players who could've been vying for the top spot in other years.

Not this time. They'll have to settle for being No. 3 after Oden and Durant _ or Durant and Oden.

The Atlanta Hawks own that third choice, but it will be the Portland Trail Blazers that will have to make the Oden-Durant decision.

"I'm taking the big guy," Washington center Spencer Hawes said when asked what he would do.

"Look who wins the championships. Nothing against Kevin, but you just got to look at the backbone of championships."

So then, Oden over Durant?

"I'm not saying that, I'm not going to go that far," Hawes said. "Conventional wisdom would say that you take the big guy, but that's a tossup, that's a tough one to say. can't say on the two individuals, but next year if it's a similar scenario I guess I go with the big guy. But I don't

know, this year I guess I'm a man divided."

Oden has been compared to Bill Russell for his rebounding and shot blocking. Also, he led Ohio State to the national championship game even without his full strength after surgery on his right wrist.

"You can see why he'd be a No. 1 pick," Durant said. "I think he's one of the best centers to come out of college. He's quick and agile, he's 7-feet, 250. I've never seen that in a center before."

Players like Durant don't come around often, either. The swingman from Texas was the college player of the year after averaging 25.8 points and 11.1 rebounds, ranking fourth nationally in both categories. And if he falls to Seattle at No. 2, he'd make a terrific consolation prize.

"Without question, Kevin Durant's the most talented player in this draft," Texas A&M point guard Acie Law said. "But if I'm building a franchise, as most teams at the top of the draft are, you can't pass up a guy you can just build your team around. Because there's guys in the league that can score 20, 25 a game, like Kevin Durant can, but you're not going to find a 7-foot manchild that can just patrol your line for 10, 12 years."

"I don't think a lot of people put a lot of focus on that, after the first two draft picks, because it's going to be fun to see where people end up," Georgetown forward Jeff Green said.

T	S	V	I	L	O	P	A	I	L	A	G	D	E
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S	H	E	D	V	A	H	L	S	H	O	H	D	I
E	C	H	E	W	A	L	E	S	D	E	X	A	O
N	A	S	Q	R	E	N	O	L	L	S	T	A	F
L	I	F	E	W	H	E	N	O	R	E	H	V	C
L	V	D	O	S	V	E	P	N	U	R	C	E	
T	E	E	L	K	E	C	E	P	A	C	E	I	E
E	T	K	C	A	C	B	V	I	S	A	D	V	
D	E	T	R	O	P	E	D	O	R	E	T	E	H
N	I	S	L	S	N	I	M	L	S	E	W	V	I
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Summer is no break for Cone

Jared Cleaver
MUSTANG DAILY

Alison Cone has known her whole life that she wanted to work in athletics.

However, she says that it was a combination of luck and timing that landed her the job as the athletics director at Cal Poly just more than two years ago.

"I grew up in a family where my dad was an athlete," Cone said. "So, we were always attending something or playing something. It was part of our family growing up. I just worked in a lot of positions. Timing was right here, and I got pretty lucky. But it's a really good job. I worked at Cal Poly for about 10 years before I got this job."

When she took the position in 2005, Cone became one of only 19 female athletics directors at the NCAA Division I level, which includes more than 315 colleges and universities across the nation. Cone took over for John McCutcheon, who accepted a similar position at the University of Massachusetts.

After earning a bachelor's degree in physical education from Washington State University and a master's degree in education from Cal State Dominguez Hills, Cone spent more than 30 years coaching and teaching before finally landing her current position.

Cone is currently finishing her second full school year as the full-fledged athletics director at Cal Poly.

But just because the school year is over doesn't mean that she's on a vacation. Although her job is slightly less time-consuming during the summer, there is much preparation that is needed for the upcoming school year.



GRAIG MANTLE MUSTANG DAILY

Cal Poly Athletic Director Alison Cone keeps busy during the summer despite the absence of Cal Poly games and meets on campus. Cone is already planning for next year's sporting events.

"Summertime is usually the least busy, since we don't have the events during the summer," Cone said. "So most of the things that have to happen during summer, happen during the normal work week. During late August through the end of May, things happen during the regular work week, in the evening, as well as on the week-ends. So it's really a seven-days-a-week kind of situation."

Whereas Cone spends much of the school year organizing and attending events, the summertime is reserved for planning and preparation.

"There are still a lot of important things that are happening—working on future schedules, fundraising issues, academic issues, budget issues and all the things that come up during the summer," Cone said. "You know, strategic planning and making sure you have things ready, so when the school year starts, things happen smoothly."

As athletics director, Cone must supervise the coaches and staff who support the athletics department.

For Cone, no two days are exactly alike.

"Every day is a little bit different," she said. "We have a fairly decent-sized staff over here. We have to make sure that everybody has the direction and vision of what they're supposed to be doing," Cone said. "We have a really talented athletic staff and group of coaches. So, it's trying to best serve that group and help them get the tools they need to be successful. I spend a little time with student-athletes, but more time with the coaches and the staff who work with the student-athletes."

After a summer full of preparation, Cone spends the school year ensuring that all 20 of the intercollegiate programs on campus are functioning smoothly.

"I do attend a lot of the events, as do many of our staff people," she

said. "We're greeting the public, working to generate interest in the program and working to have our program be a part of student life on campus. So, we're working with people in our housing department and other people on campus, so that students take advantage of the athletics program. And we're always working with the external people to encourage their participation in our programs."

Cone is responsible for hiring new athletic staff members, which she enjoys. However, that means that she also has the task of having to replace staff members that don't meet required expectations.

"Hiring people is a great part of the job," she said. "The most difficult part is probably when you have to make those negative types of evaluations on somebody's work. Probably the most important part of the job would be making sure that the right people are dealing

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Bromley, Stevenson extend contracts

Men's basketball and women's volleyball will keep their coaches through the end of the decade.

Josh Ayers
MUSTANG DAILY

One of the first questions a high school athlete asks a college coach looking to recruit is whether that coach will be there for the duration of the athlete's college career.

When Cal Poly volleyball head coach Jon Stevenson and men's basketball head coach Kevin Bromley head out on recruiting trips later in the year, they will be able to answer the potential recruits' question with a simple 'yes.'

Cal Poly Director of Athletics Alison Cone met with Bromley on June 21 and agreed to a contract that would extend through the 2010 season.

Then, on Tuesday, Cone announced that Stevenson had extended his contract through the 2011 season.

"I think, No. 1, it shows stability," Cone said of the Cal Poly



Kevin Bromley



Jon Stevenson

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Day finishes 2nd at U.S. outdoor national meet

The Cal Poly high jumper finished ahead of NCAA champion Destinee Hooker.

Josh Ayers
MUSTANG DAILY

Spring athletics at Cal Poly wrapped up a little under a month ago and many student athletes are enjoying the break from their busy schedules. For Sharon Day, there is no break.

The star Cal Poly high jumper took second place last weekend at the USA Track and Field Championships in Indianapolis with a jump of 6-02 1/4.

"She did fantastic," said Cal Poly head coach Terry Crawford in a phone interview. "She competed ferociously."

Crawford and assistant coach Jack Hoyt both traveled to Indianapolis with Day for the competition that featured world-class athletes and

former Olympians.

"It's a pretty cool atmosphere," Day said of the event in a phone interview. "It's kind of inspiring to see people running so fast and jumping so far."

Day cleared the same height as the winner of the event, Amy Acuff, but she had more missed attempts. Day did manage, however, to edge out the 2007 NCAA high jump champion, Destinee Hooker, by a full inch.

"Her mental tenaciousness speaks volumes about how she performed this weekend," Crawford said.

Day has rebounded back into the national spotlight after breaking her foot in December 2005. She took fourth place at the NCAA National Championships in Sacramento after finishing first at the Big West Conference Championships in late May, and the NCAA West Regional meet held in Oregon in early June.



DON RYAN ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sharon Day clears a height of 6 feet 1/2 inch at the NCAA West Regional Meet in Eugene, Ore. on May 25. She will travel to Central and South America to compete.

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